

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CVIS, SREF, UR, US

SUBJECT: REPRESENTATION LIST OF DIVIDED FAMILIES

1. DURING NOVEMBER 20 CALL AT MFA, EUR/SOV DIRECTOR MATLOCK, ACCOMPANIED BY CHARGE, RAISED QUESTION OF REUNITING DIVIDED FAMILIES, EMPHASIZING DUAL CITIZEN CASES. HE PRESENTED LIST OF EIGHT SUCH ACTIVE CASES TO KORNIYENKO, DIRECTOR OF USA DIVISION. KORNIYENKO ACCEPTED LIST BUT LAUNCHED INTO LONG DISCOURSE ON IRRELEVANCE OF CLAIMS TO U.S. CITIZENSHIP BY PERSONS RESIDING IN USSR AND CONSIDERED BY SOVIETS TO BE CITIZENS OF USSR. MATLOCK EXPLAINED THAT WE WERE NOT DISPUTING SOVIET LAW BUT MERELY ASKING FOR POLITICAL REALITIES AND HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. KORNIYENKO THEREUPON FELL BACK ON FAMILIAR CHARGE THAT U.S. LIST OF EXIT VISA CASES -- THE ENTIRE LIST, NOT JUST DUAL NATIONAL CASES -- WAS FULL OF INACCURACIES. IT CONTAINED DECEASED PERSONS, PERSONS WHO HAD DEPARTED USSR AND PERSONS WHOSE RELATIVES ABROAD WERE CONSIDERED WAR CRIMINALS IN USSR. MATLOCK ACKNOWLEDGED POSSIBILITY OF OCCASIONAL ERRORS BUT POINTED OUT THAT LIST VERY CAREFULLY COMPLIED TO REFLECT ACTIVE CASES SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN JOINING FAMILY IN U.S.

2. DISCUSSION OF THIS QUESTION CONCLUDED WITH KORNIYENKO AGREEING TO "DO UR BEST" IN FUTURE, AS HE CLAIMED HAD

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BEEN THE CASE IN RECENT YEARS, BUT REJECTING ANY

SUGGESTION THAT SOVIETS SHOULD OTHERWISE DISCUSS MERITS
OF ANY GIVEN CASE.
DUBS

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